

## BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Revocation or	)	
	)	ORDER OF
the Educator Certificate of	)	
	)	REVOCATION
Carol L. Whitehead	)	
	)	
Certificate 129086	)	
	)	

### SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this certificate revocation matter on January 11, 2005. On July 2, 2004, the South Carolina Department of Education (Department) sent Carol L. Whitehead a notice of her right to a hearing before the State Board concerning the possible suspension or revocation of her South Carolina educator certificate 129086 on the grounds of unprofessional conduct. Ms. Whitehead requested a hearing on July 8, 2004, within the time frame specified in the notice letter, but subsequently withdrew her request for a hearing on December 10, 2004. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to revoke Ms. Whitehead's educator certificate 129086.

### FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Whitehead holds a valid South Carolina certificate with over twenty-four years of teaching experience. She was under contract with Lexington County School District One for the 2003-04 school year as a special education teacher assigned to Lexington High School. Ms. Whitehead resigned from her employment on May 27, 2004, following allegations that she had repeatedly

engaged in verbal and physical abuse of mentally disabled students, and in intimidating, threatening behavior towards the teaching assistants assigned to her classroom.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

“The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004); S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004); S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (1991). Just cause includes “Unprofessional conduct...and...Evident unfitness for position for which employed”. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). The State Board finds that there is just cause to revoke Ms. Whitehead’s certificate 129086.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Paul M. Forrester

Paul M. Forrester

Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

January 11, 2005